

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 139017
ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 EB-07 /017 R

DRAFTED BY EA/IMS:ARDORNHEIM:LGR
APPROVED BY EA/IMS:EDWARD C. INGRAHAM
-----152303Z 083690 /75

P 152119Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 139017

FOR GEHRING

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: BDIS, ID

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL MERCANTILE IMPORT-EXPORT, SEATTLE

1. EA/IMS CONTACTED BY LARRY KNIGHT OF ABOVE FIRM, WHO SAID HE HAS BEEN IN COMMUNICATION WITH GEHRING AND REHFUSS FOR SEVERAL MONTHS ON HIS PROBLEM OF DISPOSING OF 205 TONS OF OVERISSUED NEWSPAPER. CARGO HAS BEEN HELD IN A TANDJONG PRIOK WAREHOUSE FOR YEAR AND HALF FOR WANT OF A COVERING L/C, AS REQUIRED BY GOI REGULATION.

2. FOR THE RECORD, KNIGHT DENIES STORY OF JAKARTA IMPORTER (KURNIADI) THAT HE (KNIGHT) APPROVED SHIPMENT OF NEWSPAPER WITHOUT COVERING L/C. KNIGHT STATES HE WENT AHEAD WITH SHIPMENT ON BASIS KURNIADI'S PERSONAL ASSURANCES (GIVEN BY PHONE ON NIGHT BEFORE SHIP'S DEPARTURE) THAT L/C WOULD BE MAILED SHORTLY TO KNIGHT. KNIGHT ACCEPTED KURNIADI'S WORD, BECAUSE KURNIADI HAD ALWAYS PROVIDED L/CS BEFORE, KNIGHT ASSUMED KURNIADI KNEW ALL GOI RULES, AND KNIGHT WAS UNAWARE OF THESE RULES HIMSELF.

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3. KNIGHT REPORTS THAT KURNIADI ASKED HIM RECENTLY FOR PERMISSION TO ATTEMPT A RE-EXPORT OF THE NEWSPAPER AND THAT SUCH PERMISSION WAS GIVEN. KNIGHT DOES NOT KNOW OUT-COME OF KURNIADI'S EFFORTS. MEANWHILE, COMPANY IN U.S.

WHICH SUPPLIED NEWSPAPER TO INTERNATIONAL MERCANTILE HAS

LEARNED FROM ONE ITS CUSTOMERS HERE THAT THERE IS ANOTHER POTENTIAL BUYER FOR THE NEWSPAPER IN JAKARTA (WHOSE IDENTITY SUPPLIER'S CUSTOMER REFUSES TO DIVULGE) WHO WOULD LIKE TO HAVE 30 DAYS IN WHICH TO TRY HIS LUCK AT BRINGING NEWSPAPER INTO INDONESIAN ECONOMY. KNIGHT MUST BE ABLE TO DECIDE ON MONDAY, JUNE 20, WHETHER HE WISHES TO LET MYSTERY BUYER HAVE HIS CHANCE.

4. THEREFORE, KNIGHT HAS ASKED THAT GEHRING TRY TO ASCERTAIN WHAT PROGRESS KURNIADI SEEMS TO BE MAKING IN HIS RE-EXPORT PLAN. HE CLEARLY DOES NOT WISH TO FRUSTRATE THIS PROGRESS. HE HAS ALSO BEEN UNABLE TO DETERMINE THE WAREHOUSING COST INCURRED SO FAR AND HOW IT HAS BEEN DEFRAIDED.

5. KNIGHT REQUESTS THAT GEHRING REPORT HIS FINDINGS BY WEEK'S END, EITHER BY COLLECT PHONE CALL IN EVENING TO (206) 842-3277 OR BY TELEX TO BURGESS SEATTLE FOR LKNIGHT (NO. 329473). CHRISTOPHER

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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